



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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Date: November 20, 1957
To: Mr. E. Tamm
Director
Office of Security
Department of State
515 22nd Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2003 2008

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: MEMBERS OF BRANCH
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

The captioned individual, as you are aware, is an acknowledged expert in the missile development field in the United States. Subsequent to World War II, he was brought to this country from Germany under the protective control of the Joint Intelligence Objectives Agency.

On November 7, 1957, Paul Schroeder, 6321 Philadelphia Road, Baltimore 6, Maryland, furnished the information set out herein to our Baltimore Office. These data are being furnished for your information and this Bureau is taking no action with respect thereto. The information furnished by Schroeder is as follows:

He was one of the German scientists who during the period 1937-1940 worked on the development of the V-3 missile in Germany. This missile was a long-range intercontinental rocket which was used to some degree of success in the German aerial bombardment of London. One of the scientists who also worked on the development of this V-3 missile was the captioned individual. The Braun was considered as somewhat of an intellectual thorn in the side of the German scientists who worked on the development of the V-3 missile.

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the persons in charge of the V-2 program; however Von Braun was prone to appropriate the findings of other individuals and submit them as his own. Over a period of time, he finally reached a position of some importance in the V-2 program. Schroeder was the principal theorist and the person mainly responsible for the conception of the V-2 missile.

In 1953, Schroeder entered the United States under a contract for personal services with the United States Air Force and was assigned to the Patrick Air Force Missile Test Center in Florida. In early 1954, he was classified by the Civil Service Commission as Physicist Specialist Mechanic, but shortly after receiving this classification in February, 1954, it was taken away from him and he was down-graded to the classification of Mathematician. Schroeder worked at the Patrick Air Force Test Center until 1956 when the Air Research Development Corps (ARDC) decided to send representatives to a meeting attended by missile experts of the Western Powers at Munich, Germany. Schroeder's name, however, was not submitted and he learned that Colonel Gerard La Rocca and Colonel Karel Rick, officials at the Patrick Air Force Base, were not only responsible for his name not being submitted, but also for the change in classification previously mentioned.

In the Spring of 1956, Schroeder completed an article containing a detailed history of the development of the V-2 rocket which assigned to the proper persons their true contributions in its development. This article reflected that Von Braun had little or nothing to do with the development of this missile. Schroeder loaned this article to Colonel La Rocca who allowed Von Braun to read it before it was returned to Schroeder. Schroeder also showed the article to officials of the ARDC and he was assured by them, and in particular by a Colonel Arnhys, a Public Relations officer of ARDC, that there was no objection from the Air Force to its publication. Later, he received word from his attorney that officials at the Pentagon did not desire this article to be published and that if it was published, he would lose his United States citizenship.

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In August, 1956, Schroeder resigned from the Air Force and accepted a position with the Lincoln Laboratory, located in Boston, Massachusetts; however, prior to his starting employment at this company, his proposed employment was terminated and he learned that Colonel La Rocca had made certain misrepresentations to officials of the Lincoln Laboratory concerning Schroeder, all at the request of Von Braun. Schroeder, thereafter, obtained employment as a scientist for General Mills, Incorporated, Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he worked until approximately the end of 1956 when he was dismissed as an alleged security risk. The allegation resulting in his being designated as a security risk consisted in the fact that he had driven to Baltimore, Maryland, for the purpose of discussing with officials of ARDC certain problems that had arisen in connection with research at General Mills, Incorporated. This problem mainly consisted of a difference in theoretical approach to certain experiments that Schroeder entertained as opposed to those held by a Doctor Kober, who was in charge of the work. In December, 1956, Schroeder requested an investigation by the Air Force of his conduct and at that time, he was assured that he was not considered a security risk, but that he had been dismissed for not complying with instructions of his superiors. Since his leaving the General Mills, Incorporated, he worked at the Glenn L. Martin Company, Middle River, Maryland, until October, 1957, when he was dismissed because of a reduction in force at this company. Schroeder has decided to publicize his findings regarding Von Braun, whom he considers to be an impostor responsible for the failure of the United States Army in not keeping abreast with rocket development. He had arranged a meeting with a representative of the Associated Press in Washington, D. C., for November 4, 1957, but while en route from Baltimore, his car developed engine trouble and he was unable to continue to Washington, D. C. After a delay of a day and

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on-ally, he retrieved his car and while driving it back to Baltimore, the steering wheel became so loose that he almost became involved in a wreck. An examination of the car showed that the connection between the shaft had been normally loosened. Schroeder believes that in some way, Van Braun learned of his intentions of meeting the Associates Press representative and attempted to take his life to prevent any publication of Schroeder's findings. Schroeder has since written to Senator Stuart Symington, offering to make available information in his possession concerning Van Braun and the Red program.

Schroeder advised that he was born on March 11, 1894, in Germany, and was married to Gertrud Schroeder.

The foregoing consists of the information furnished by Schroeder.

The files of this Bureau reflect background data concerning Schroeder furnished by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D. C., on September 18, 1954. Photostats of the data so furnished is enclosed.

For your additional information, there is enclosed an exact copy of a letter from Mrs. James Campbell Lewis, Cornish, New Hampshire, dated November 8, 1957, and directed to Inspector Joseph A. Sizoo of this Bureau. This Bureau is instituting no inquiries as a result of the comments of Mrs. Lewis.

Enclosures - 2

1 - Immigration and Naturalization Service
(Enclosures - 2)

1 - Director of Naval Intelligence
(Enclosures - 2)

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- ① - *Director
Central Intelligence Agency (Enclosure-2)
Attention: Deputy Director, Plans*

- 1 - Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence
Department of the Army (Enclosure-2)
Attention: Chief, Security Division*

- 1 - Office of Special Investigations (Enclosure-2)
Air Force*

